

# **BOYLSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Open Air Burning**

### ***RULES FOR OPEN AIR BURNING***

Open air burning is allowed from January 15<sup>th</sup> through May 1st at the discretion of the Fire Chief or his designee. Under certain weather conditions the State Fire Marshall or Department of Conservation and Recreation may limit or restrict open air burning. In order to burn you must first obtain an Open Air Burning Permit at the Dispatch Center at the Police Station, 221 Main St., and pay a one time seasonal non-refundable fee of \$5.00. ALL PAYMENTS ARE TO BE MADE BY CHECK ONLY.

Once you have obtained your permit, it is valid throughout the Open Air Burning season. On a day that you wish to burn, you must **FIRST** call the Dispatch Center between 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM at **(508) 869-2113** to find out if burning will be allowed for that day. If burning is allowed, you will need to give the dispatcher your permit number, name, and address where the burning will take place. Note: This must be the address on the permit. A permit is only good for one location.

Open air burning will be allowed from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM. The fire must be completely extinguished by 4:00 PM. Burn the fire down to coals and spread the coals with snow, water, sand or soil.

Permit holders are allowed to burn brush smaller than four inches, cane, driftwood, and forestry debris. The burning of items such as building materials, grass, hay, leaves, stumps, tires and rubbish is not allowed. Please note that this is a DCR and DEP requirement that is enforced by the local fire department.

Materials must be burned on land proximate to the place of generation; no off-side materials can be brought in and burned.

The fire **MUST** be supervised at all times until the fire is completely extinguished. Unsupervised fires can be extremely dangerous.

Fires must be set in a location greater than 75 feet from any building. Brush should be burned in small piles no larger than 4 ft. by 4 ft. by 3 ft. in height. The area around the burn site must be clear of combustible materials to prevent spreading.

Commercial burning is **NOT** allowed. This permit is not valid for lot or land clearing.

The fire shall not cause a nuisance to neighbors or the general public. Residents are asked to be as courteous as possible to their neighbors when determining a location to have an outside fire.

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The Open Air Burning Permit does not release the permit holder from any liability from damages, including payment of Fire Department costs in the event that control of the fire is lost, or illegal burning requires extinguishments.

In case of heavy winds or otherwise dangerous conditions, this permit will become automatically invalid. Residents will be advised if burning conditions have changed during a particular day.

The use of flammable liquids for the purpose of starting permit fires is PROHIBITED.

This permit must be available while burning and shall be shown to anyone who may request to see it.

The Boylston Fire Department reserves the right to revoke any Open Air Burning Permit at any time if these regulations are not followed.

You should have a watering hose close by to keep the area around the permit fire wet down. If this is not possible, a shovel or other means of extinguishing the fire must be available.

Open-air fires are subject to inspection by the Boylston Fire Department and / or the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

**If the fire starts to burn out of control please call 911  
immediately!**

***PLEASE BE CAREFUL!***

#### Section 20 – Burning Permits and Penalties

**20.01 Any person that is directly or indirectly engaged in or allows open air burning without a burning permit issued by the Boylston Fire Chief or his designee, shall pay a fine of \$100 per incident and shall be responsible to compensate the Town for the entire costs and expenses and damages caused by the fire and by public safety response and control of the same.**